

Claims

1. A clamp for securing to a pipe or flowline for mounting buoyancy thereon, the clamp comprising:
 - 5 i) a clamp body having surfaces against which buoyancy may abut
 - ii) means for urging the clamp towards the pipe, and
 - iii) a radially resilient member capable of expanding or contracting to conform to changes in diameter of the pipe.
- 10 2. A clamp as claimed in claim 1 wherein the radially resilient material lies intermediate the means for urging the clamp towards the pipe and the clamp body.
- 15 3. A clamp as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the radially resilient material comprises a polymeric material.
4. A clamp as claimed in claim 3 wherein the polymeric material comprises compounded natural or synthetic rubber.
- 20 5. A clamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the radially resilient material is spaced apart from adjacent material to which it is not bonded at a plurality of locations.
- 25 6. A clamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the clamp body comprises a fibre reinforced plastics material.

7. A clamp as claimed in claim 6 wherein the fibre reinforced plastics material comprises a thermosetting resin comprising epoxy, polyester, vinyl ester or mixtures thereof reinforced by fibres of one or more of glass, carbon or metal.
- 5 8. A clamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the means for urging the clamp body toward the pipe comprises titanium or Kevlar® (poly-paraphenylene terephthalamide).
- 10 9. A clamp for securing to a pipe or flowline for securing buoyancy thereon substantially as described herein by reference to any one or more of the figures.
- 15 10. The use of a clamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in mounting buoyancy on a pipe or flowline.
11. A method of mounting buoyancy on a pipe or flowline, the method comprising the steps of:
- 20 a) mounting a clamp comprising
- i) a clamp body having surfaces against which buoyancy may abut,
- ii) means for urging the clamp body towards the pipe, and
- 25 iii) a radially resilient member capable of expanding or contracting to conform to changes in diameter of the pipe about the pipe,

- b) urging the clamp body towards the pipe and
- c) mounting buoyancy on the clamp body.